Extended Abstract

Title: Creating the Resources and Support Services to Assist National Governments in Implementing the Recommendation

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Open sharing advances universal access to knowledge in furtherance of fundamental human rights. When governments implement the UNESCO Recommendation on OER, open education increasingly becomes the default, and the world moves closer to reaching fundamental human rights in SDG4 and the UN Declaration of Human Rights (Article 26): everyone has the right to an education.

National governments will require support to implement the many actions listed in the Recommendation on OER. Some of this support will include (1) resources including, but not limited to: handouts on the benefits of OER, template open education and licensing policies, slide decks, infographics, professional learning opportunities, case studies, research summaries, stories of transformation, open policy and procurement guides, videos, FAQs, etc., and (2) direct support services to empower government practitioners and advocates through in-depth capacity building activities to help them navigate the legal, technical, and practical aspects of opening up knowledge.

This interactive activity will brainstorm what resources and direct services governments may need to successfully implement the detailed actions in the Recommendation. The session will begin with sharing an overview of the work to date the Network of Open Organizations, and the planned Recommendation implementation activities of the Creative Commons Open Education Platform. The bulk of the session will be spent discussing (1) what participants' think their national governments will need to make progress implementing the Recommendation, (2) refining the list of potential resources and direct support services needed to assist Governments, (3) discuss what organizations (in addition the Network of Open Orgs) we might want / need to partner with to successfully support governments' implementation, and (4) determining who would like to collaborate over the next 1-2 years to build the necessary resources and support services to help Governments implement the Recommendation.

This session will be a forum that engages participants in forming collaborative partnerships around shared areas of interest and planning collective action.

Because the Recommendation is an international instrument, much of the resources and support services created to help Governments implement the recommendation can, if properly designed, be useful in all UNESCO member states. Because of this, there is a significant opportunity for the global

open education community to engage in collective action in the creation of a common set of resources and support services.

The session outline, and all existing resources will be put on a gdoc in advance of the conference, and all participants will have full “write” access to the document. The session will be designed to make it easy for all participants to actively contribute, and the moderator will take care to ensure all voices are heard and no one voice occupies too much space.

The session aims to generate both short- and long-term outcomes.

Short-term outcomes: (1) a list of what participants’ think their national governments will need to make progress implementing the Recommendation, (2) refining the list of potential resources and direct support services needed to assist Governments, (3) a list of organizations (in addition to the Network of Open Orgs) to partner with to successfully support governments, and (4) a list of participants who want to collaborate over the next 1-2 years to build the necessary resources and support services to help Governments implement the Recommendation.

All of the short-term outcomes from this session will be sharing back with both the Network of Open Orgs and the Creative Commons Open Education Platform to ensure maximum collaboration with open education organizations and community members already working

Long-term outcomes: Governments and education institutions are equipped to make the knowledge they fund, build, and steward openly accessible in the public interest, in an ethical, sustainable, and equitable way.

Respectfully submitted,

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